
Duisport objects to terminal expansion Venlo

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Germany's largest inland terminal Duisburg has objected to the expansion of rail terminal Venlo, situated on the Dutch-German border.

The expansion is supported by the Dutch province of Limburg and this is considered state support, German terminal operator Duisport states.

The rail terminal in the Dutch hub of Venlo is operated by Cabooter Group. It is currently expanding its business by constructing a new terminal, adding 13 hectare to the conglomeration of terminals. Just across the border in Germany, it operates Kaldenrichen terminal.

Dispute

According to Dutch media reports, the province of Limburg has suggested to support the expansion of the terminal by purchasing part of the land, and leasing this to Cabooter Group on an annual basis. This construction has sparked criticism among its German counterparts. This is considered state support and thus unfair competition, the inland terminal reportedly explains.

Duisport has asked the province not to support the terminal expansion and has threatened to go to court. The decision of the province of Limburg has now been postponed to ask for judicial advise.

Venlo

On the border with Germany, Venlo plays an important role in opening up the hinterland connection of the port of Rotterdam. An increasing number of companies are getting established in this region. Furthermore, Cabooter Group has recently started a railway connection to China, aiming to become a main hub on the New Silk Road.

Duisburg has traditionally been the main node on the New Silk Road. Most of Eurasian rail freight traffic destined for western Europe is consolidated in Duisburg.

(RailFreight.com)